

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Multiple enumerated claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Yamazaki, in view of Kenichi, and Yamazaki '834. This contention is respectfully traversed, and it is respectfully suggested that the rejection does not meet the Patent Office's burden of providing a *prima facie* showing of unpatentability.

The pending claims 4 and 21 are rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Yamazaki who discloses an electric optical device that creates a retaining capacitor between a black matrix and a pixel electrode using a dielectric layer (shown in Fig. 4) and Yanagawa who discloses in-plane switching liquid-type crystal.

However, it is respectfully suggested that Yamazaki does not teach the claimed feature whereby a pixel line overlaps not a pixel region, but rather a black matrix. This is in fact shown in Fig. 1, and is completely patentable over the cited prior art. Because the pixel line does not overlap the pixel region, this can prevent degradation of the contrast rate. Moreover, the black matrix takes part in creating a storage capacitor with the pixel line, a common electrode to form a parallel field, and covering to protect against light leakage. This may be especially useful to prevent light leakage generated by an electric field other than a parallel electric field in a direction of the arrow in Fig. 1. Note that the specification discloses the idea of making common the black matrix and the common electrodes. These are conventionally considered to be separate members. This technique of making common the black

matrix and these electrodes is entirely new. Moreover, forming the storage matrix using a black matrix and the pixel line is entirely different from the techniques disclosed in the newly presented prior art.

Therefore, no fair combination of the references cited during the prosecution would render obvious pending claims 4 and 21. Therefore, it is respectfully suggested that the rejection does not meet that Patent Office's burden of providing a *prima facie* showing of unpatentability. It is respectfully suggested that the other pending claims 5-10 and 22-27 should be rebutted for similar reasons.

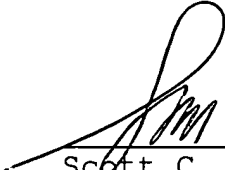
Applicants also provide a copy and English Abstract of the Japanese Patent laid open 7-36058 as mentioned in the specification.

Applicant submits concurrently herewith an Information Disclosure Statement under Rule 97(c)(2) and the rule 17(p) certification fee of \$180.


Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. Enclosed is a \$110 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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